



Smoke from Canada wildfires is increasing health risks in U.S.



Haze from Canadian wildfires blankets the downtown Pittsburgh skyline as seen from West End Overlook in Elliott, Pa., Wednesday, June 28, 2023.

Associated Press

Aruban snacks and where to find them



Globally lauded Regenerative Travel Adds Caribbean's Top Hotel Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort



Fresh Mussels

EVERY WEEK FRESH ARRIVALS
LIMITED SUPPLIES
RESERVATION RECOMMENDED

• / INFO@PAPILLONARUBA.COM



Pinchos Grill & Bar



Special Menu DINNER FOR TWO

Price
\$90 + service charge



Available
8pm & on

Live Music Entertainment Every Friday and Saturday from 7pm - 10pm

+297-583-2666

RESERVATIONS@PINCHOSGRILLARUBA.COM

Promotion subject to change without prior notice

Smoke from Canada wildfires is increasing health risks in U.S.

From Front

By **MIKE HOUSEHOLDER and COREY WILLIAMS**

Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — Smoky air from Canada's wildfires shrouded broad swaths of the U.S. from Minnesota to Pennsylvania and Kentucky on Wednesday, prompting warnings to stay inside and exacerbating health risks for people already suffering from industrial pollution. The impacts are particularly hard on poor and minority communities that are more likely to live near polluting plants and have higher rates of asthma. Detroit, a mostly Black city with a poverty rate of about 30%, had the worst air quality in the U.S. on Wednesday, leading the Environmental Protection Agency to warn that "everyone should stay indoors." "The more breaths you're taking, you're inhaling, literally, a fire, camp smoke, into your lungs," said Darren Riley, who was diagnosed with asthma in 2018, a few years after arriving in Detroit.

"Many communities face this way too often," said Riley, who is Black. "And while this wildfire smoke allows, unfortunately, many people to feel this burden, this is a burden that far too long communities have faced day in and day out." The Environmental Protection Agency's AirNow.gov



Smoke fills the sky reducing visibility Wednesday, June 28, 2023, in Detroit.

Associated Press

site showed Detroit in the "hazardous" range. Chicago, Indianapolis, Cleveland, Ohio; and Pittsburgh all have "very unhealthy" air. A wider circle of unhealthy air spread into St. Louis and Louisville, Kentucky.

Earlier this month, smoke from the wildfires blanketed the U.S. East Coast for days. Another round of drifting smoke from the wildfires was moving through western Pennsylvania and western New York and headed toward the Mid-Atlantic, said National Weather Service meteorologist Byron Jackson. In Canada, smoke will migrate across Quebec and Ontario over the next few days, Environment and Climate Change Canada meteorologist Ste-

ven Flisfeder said.

In the U.S., the smoke is exacerbating air quality issues for poor and Black communities that already are more likely to live near polluting plants, and in rental housing with mold and other triggers. Detroit's southwest side is home to a number of sprawling refineries and manufacturing plants. It is one of the poorest parts of the city. According to a 2022 report by the American Lung Association, the city's and short-term particle pollution ranked among the worst in the nation.

"Being close to those refineries — that's an environmental factor that's difficult to control," said Dr. Ruma Srivastava, a pediatric pulmonologist at Children's Hospital of Michigan in De-

troit. "It does increase their risk for asthma flareups. For them, it's even more important to follow the (air quality safety) recommendations."

Riley's own experiences prompted him to start JustAir, which provides air pollution monitoring.

"Just because you're born in a certain ZIP code or you're born into a certain family with a certain skin color doesn't mean that you should have an unequal go at it," he said.

Elsewhere, Milwaukee County Emergency Medical Services has seen a spike in calls for residents with respiratory complaints, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported. Office of Emergency Management data show a disproport-

tionate amount of calls for respiratory issues — 54.8% — have been for Black people in Milwaukee, according to the newspaper. Milwaukee County's population is 27.1% Black.

In Chicago, where about 29% of the population is Black, Mayor Brandon Johnson urged young people, older adults and residents with health issues to spend more time indoors. He pledged "swift action to ensure that vulnerable individuals have the resources they need to protect themselves and their families."

President Joe Biden could see the impact Wednesday during a visit to nation's third-largest city, where he was expected to promote his renewable energy policies during a major address on the economy. Biden has described the Canadian wildfires as clear evidence of climate change.

Minnesota issued a record 23rd air quality alert for the year through late Wednesday night, as smoky skies obscured the skylines of Minneapolis and St. Paul. Michigan, Wisconsin and Indiana were among other states issuing air quality alerts, and cities including Louisville also advised people to limit prolonged or intense outdoor activity.

"This is particularly thick smoke," Jackson, with the National Weather Service, said. □

Countdown to 250th anniversary begins in the U.S. with planners hoping it can unify a divided country



The U.S. Flag flies at the Capitol in Washington, Feb. 6, 2023.

Associated Press

By **NICHOLAS RICCARDI**

Associated Press

It's three years until the United States celebrates its 250th anniversary, but festivities are already starting.

The anniversary push will formally launch July 4 with an event during a Major League Baseball game between the Milwaukee Brewers and the Chicago Cubs

at American Family Field in Milwaukee. The organization spearheading the celebration, known as America250, will start recruiting people to share their stories of what the country means to them.

The country is headed toward the anniversary date as it remains riven politically, its citizens divided over how to view the Jan. 6, 2021, assault on the U.S. Capitol and whether President Joe Biden was legitimately elected. Even decisions on where to shop or what beer to drink have been caught

up in political fighting. Before the U.S. reaches its semiquincentennial — try saying that out loud — it will have to survive the 2024 presidential election, which is shaping up to be as divisive as its prior two contests. Times also were fraught in the run-up to the country's 1976 bicentennial celebration, which came two years after Richard Nixon resigned his presidency over the Watergate scandal and convulsions over the end of the Vietnam War. It followed a decade that saw the assassinations of

President John F. Kennedy, Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr.

But Rosie Rios, the former U.S. treasurer who heads America250, has fond memories of that celebration as an 11-year-old in Northern California. She watched old-fashioned sailing ships gather in Boston and New York harbors on her family's black-and-white television, and she visited the national Freedom Train exhibit when it stopped in Oakland. And, of course, she remembers the fireworks. □

U.S. public debt is projected to reach 181% of American economic activity in 30 years

By **FATIMA HUSSEIN**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Congressional Budget Office is giving the world a concerning look at the U.S. government's ledgers: ever higher deficits, greater government spending and tax revenues that only begin to increase when existing tax cuts expire.

The nonpartisan agency estimates in its latest 30-year outlook, released Wednesday, that publicly held debt will be equal to a record 181% of American economic activity by 2053. That compares with a projected 98% at the end of this budget year, a sign the government is getting more dependent on debt to pay for Social Security, Medicare, the military, infrastructure and an array of programs that benefit millions of households.

The higher debt load is not all that shocking given the deficit spending of the past two decades. But the CBO figures do offer a bit of comfort in that annual deficits after 2042 are lower than forecasted in the agency's report from last year.

This is because the primary borrowing and interest rate costs are lower than what the CBO model year



The Capitol is seen in Washington, Tuesday, June 27, 2023.

showed then, meaning this fiscal crystal ball can improve as the numbers are refined.

Yet there is a clear warning that lawmakers will be constrained as spending increases after 2026, driven largely by increased healthcare and Social Security costs tied to an aging population and a projected lower labor force participation rate of 60.3% in 2053, from 62.2% now.

Revenues also are expected to increase after 2026.

But that is due in large part to increased individual income tax receipts after the tax cuts under President Donald Trump are set to expire after 2025.

The problem with the CBO forecast is that the White House wants to preserve some of those tax cuts and the GOP wants to make them largely permanent, so revenues could be lower than what the CBO anticipates.

For 2023, the CBO projects that debt, measured as a

percentage of the gross domestic product, this year will be 2 percentage points higher compared the estimate in last year's long-term budget impact report. Also this year, the report estimates the U.S. hitting a 4.7% unemployment rate, though the current jobless rate sits at 3.7%.

On the same day as the report's release, President Joe Biden traveled to Chicago to deliver a speech about the nation's economic growth after the

once-in-a-generation pandemic.

"The U.S. has had the highest economic growth among the world's leading economies since the pandemic," Biden said. "We've added over 13 million jobs, more jobs in two years than any president has added in a four-year term," he said. While the risk of a fiscal crisis in the near term appears to be low, the report said another bout of persistently high inflation, for instance, could affect the government's long-term position. The nation's fiscal health became the focal point of debate during the latest round of debt ceiling negotiations.

While Republicans called for a series of massive cuts as part of an agreement to lift the debt ceiling, the White House and Democrats said the debt should not be tied to the issue, threatening an unprecedented national default. Ultimately, the parties agreed to suspend the debt limit until 2025 in exchange for restrictions on spending for the next two years, imposing new work requirements for older adults receiving food aid and greenlighting a natural gas line that many Democrats oppose. □

Associated Press

Dozens in 16 states charged with health care fraud schemes

By **LINDSAY WHITEHURST**
and **TOM MURPHY**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department has charged dozens of people in several health care fraud and prescription drug schemes, including one totaling \$1.9 billion and a doctor accused of ordering fake ankle braces for a patient whose leg had been amputated, officials said Wednesday.

The scheme involving the submission of nearly \$2 billion in bogus claims is one of the largest health care fraud cases ever brought by the Justice Department,

the agency said. It's one of several announced as part of a crackdown in states around the country.

In total, 78 people in 16 states were charged in a series of separate cases, which also included an alleged scheme to buy back HIV medication from patients and then resell the pills. The defendants targeted vulnerable people and used the money they made to buy exotic cars, jewelry and yachts, federal investigators said. The federal government seized millions of dollars in cash, automobiles and real estate as part of the crackdown.

"The Justice Department will find and bring to justice criminals who seek to defraud Americans and steal from taxpayer-funded programs," Attorney General Merrick Garland said in a statement.

In one case filed in the Southern District of Florida, investigators said they found nearly \$2 billion in fraudulent telemedicine claims submitted to government-funded coverage programs like Medicare and Medicaid, which mainly cover people age 65 and over and those with low incomes, respectively..

□



Attorney General Merrick Garland speaks at a press conference to announce arrests and disruptions of the fentanyl precursor chemical supply chain, June 23, 2023 in Washington.

Associated Press

The heat wave blamed for 13 deaths in Texas so far spreads eastward

By K. McGILL/ K. MILLER

Associated Press

Scorching heat blamed for at least 13 deaths in Texas and another in Louisiana blanketed more of the Southeast on Wednesday, stretching government warnings of dangerous, triple-digit temperatures eastward into Mississippi and Tennessee. California, meanwhile, was facing its first major heat wave of the year. The National Weather Service warned that the dry, hot, windy conditions were ripe for dangerous fires in parts of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado and Utah. Mid-week temperatures were forecast to surpass 100 degrees (38 degrees Celsius) in much of the Southeast and high humidity was expected to push heat index values above 115 degrees (46 Celsius) in some areas.

Lingering power outages after weekend storms compounded the heat-related misery in Arkansas. More than 10,000 residents were still without power in the central part of the state. In Cabot, northeast of Little Rock, a local senior center provided cool air and a place to charge cellphones and tablets for those without electricity. "Usually I just come at noon for the meal," Clint Hickman, still waiting for his



A fisherman reels in his catch as the sun rises over the Atlantic Ocean, Wednesday, June 28, 2023, in Bal Harbour, Fla.

Associated Press

power to come back on, said in a phone interview Wednesday. "It's kind of nice to have a little cool air, so I came a little earlier." A park in Pearl River, Louisiana, featuring water fountains and overhead sprinklers for children to play in was a welcome respite for Victoria Lee, who was there with her small children. "I have outdoor kids," she said. "They don't like being inside. So, when we're at home and they're outside and they're sweaty, they're just miserable all the time.

So this just makes it a lot easier." Among the heat's casualties was a man who died late Sunday in Shreveport, Louisiana, the second heat-related death in the state in an unusually warm June. The 49-year-old from neighboring Bossier City had been found lying on a sidewalk in Shreveport, where Sunday's temperature hit 97 degrees (36 degrees Celsius) 10 degrees Fahrenheit higher than the average for the date. The death of a 62-year-old woman on June 21 in Keith-

ville also was blamed on heat. Relatives found her after she had spent several days without electricity because of earlier severe storms, the Caddo Parish Coroner's Office said. In southeast Louisiana, the National Weather Service office in Slidell issued an excessive heat warning on June 16, the earliest in the year it's ever done so for that area, a meteorologist said. Eleven of the Texas heat-related deaths occurred in Webb County, which includes Laredo.

The dead ranged in age from 60 to 80 years old and many had underlying health conditions, according to Webb County Medical Examiner Dr. Corinne Stern, who said the level of heat in the county was unprecedented. The area has a higher poverty rate than the state average and that compounds the suffering, Stern said. "The vast majority do not have air conditioning in their homes. They either have the fans off, or they have fans on but not proper ventilation," Stern said. "There has been at least one or two that have air conditioning but don't want to run it due to the bill." Two Florida hikers also died while hiking in extreme heat at Big Bend National Park. The heat has prompted the U.S. Postal Service to allow earlier starting times for letter carriers, according to the National Association of Letter Carriers Lonestar Branch. This comes after the death of a letter carrier who died June 20 in near triple-digit heat. The cause of the carrier's death was still under investigation Wednesday. The unusually high temperatures were brought on by a heat dome that has taxed the Texas power grid and brought record highs to parts of the state, according to meteorologists. □

U.S. commits more lawyers to address Native American disappearances and killings



Members of the U.S. government's Not Invisible Commission prepare for a field hearing in Albuquerque, N.M. on Wednesday, June 28, 2023.

Associated Press

By SUSAN M. BRYAN

Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)

— The U.S. Department of Justice on Wednesday announced it will be funneling more resources toward addressing the alarming rate of disappearances and killings among Native Americans.

As part of a new outreach program, the agency will dispatch five attorneys and five coordinators to several regions around the country to help with investigations of unsolved cases and related crimes.

Their reach will span from

New Mexico and Arizona to Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Michigan and Minnesota.

Attorney General Merrick Garland acknowledged that the crisis has shattered the lives of victims, their families and entire tribal communities.

"The Justice Department will continue to accelerate our efforts, in partnership with tribes, to keep their communities safe and pursue justice for American Indian and Alaska Native families," Garland said in a statement issued Wednesday.

day.

The announcement came as a special commission gathered in Albuquerque for one of its final field hearings as it works to develop recommendations on improving the response from law enforcement and coordination within local, state, tribal and federal justice systems.

The commission started its meeting with a prayer and a moment of silence as four colorful skirts were displayed at the front of the room in honor of those who have gone missing or have been trafficked or killed. □

Some Dutch people seeking euthanasia cite autism or intellectual disabilities

By MARIA CHENG
AP Medical Writer

LONDON (AP) — Several people with autism and intellectual disabilities have been legally euthanized in the Netherlands in recent years because they said they could not lead normal lives, researchers have found.

The cases included five people younger than 30 who cited autism as either the only reason or a major contributing factor for euthanasia, setting an uneasy precedent that some experts say stretches the limits of what the law originally intended.

In 2002, the Netherlands became the first country to allow doctors to kill patients at their request if they met strict requirements, including having an incurable illness causing "unbearable" physical or mental suffering.

Between 2012 and 2021, nearly 60,000 people were killed at their own request, according to the Dutch government's euthanasia review committee. To show how the rules are being applied and interpreted, the committee has released documents related to more than 900 of those people, most of whom were older and had conditions including cancer, Parkinson's and ALS.

Irene Tuffrey-Wijne, a palliative care specialist at Britain's Kingston University, and her colleagues reviewed the documents to see how Dutch doctors were dealing with euthanasia requests from people with autism or with lifelong mental impairments. They published their findings in the journal *BJPsych Open* in May.

Among the 900 people with publicly posted case files, 39 of them were autistic and/or intellectually disabled. A handful were elderly, but 18 of them were younger than 50.

Many of the patients cited different combinations of mental problems, physical ailments, diseases or aging-related difficulties as



Protesters pray outside Dutch government buildings in The Hague, Netherlands, on Monday, April 9, 2001, as the Upper House of Parliament began debating registration that will legalize euthanasia under strict guidelines. Slogan on table reads, "Human considers, God decides."

Associated Press

reasons for seeking euthanasia.

Thirty included being lonely as one the causes of their unbearable pain. Eight said the only causes of their suffering were factors linked to their intellectual disability or autism social isolation, a lack of coping strategies or an inability to adjust their thinking.

"There's no doubt in my mind these people were suffering," Tuffrey-Wijne said. "But is society really OK with sending this message, that there's no other way to help them and it's just better to be dead?"

Other countries, including Belgium, Canada and Colombia, have legal euthanasia, but the Netherlands is the only one that shares detailed information about potentially controversial deaths, providing the best window into emerging trends in assisted dying. Still, its records are limited to what doctors disclose. So there could be other factors that weren't released or cases where the patient's autism or intellectual disabilities weren't noted.

Because the committee releases only select records,

it's also impossible to know the true number of people with autism or intellectual disabilities killed at their own request.

Among the eight patients cited by researchers were an autistic man in his 20s. His record said "the patient had felt unhappy since childhood," was regularly bullied and "longed for social contacts but was unable to connect with others."

The man, who was not named, chose euthanasia after deciding that "having to live on this way for years was an abomination."

The records also included an autistic woman in her 30s who also had borderline personality disorder. She was offered a spot in a supported living center, but her doctors said she could not maintain relationships and deemed contact with others "too difficult."

In one-third of cases, Dutch doctors concluded autism and intellectual disabilities were untreatable and that there was "no prospect of improvement," the researchers wrote.

Simon Baron-Cohen, director of Cambridge Univer-

sity's Autism Research Centre, said it was "abhorrent" that people with autism were being euthanized without being offered further support.

He noted that many autistic people struggle with depression, which could compromise their ability to make a lawful request to die. He also said an autistic person asking to die might not grasp the complexity of the situation.

Dr. Bram Sizoo, a Dutch psychiatrist, was disturbed that young people with autism viewed euthanasia as a viable solution.

"Some of them are almost excited at the prospect of death," Sizoo said. "They think this will be the end of their problems and the end of their family's problems." A representative of the Royal Dutch Medical Association said it was up to doctors to decide if someone meets the criteria for euthanasia.

The group said many cases involving patients with autism were "highly complex" and that "age itself is not a decisive factor to determine whether a person suffers unbearably." □

ARUBA
OSTRICH
FARM



MUST VISIT!

- Fun Tour
- The best Shaved Ice
- Delicious lunch
- Fresh Fruits Smoothies
- Ice cold beer
- Unique local art Shop
- #1 Farmers Market

(Every 1st Sunday of the month)



Restaurant

RESERVATIONS IS
RECOMMENDED

due to preparations and limited
availability on ostrich/emu eggs.

Info@arubaostrichfarm.com

or Tel: 585-9630

OPEN DAILY:
10:00 – 4:00 pm
NO RESERVATION
NECESSARY FOR TOURS

Regulators begin final safety inspection before treated Fukushima wastewater is released into sea

By MARI YAMAGUCHI
Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Japanese regulators began a final inspection on Wednesday before treated radioactive wastewater is released from the wrecked Fukushima nuclear plant into the Pacific Ocean.

The inspection began a day after plant operator Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings installed the last piece of equipment needed for the release the outlet of the undersea tunnel dug to discharge the wastewater 1 kilometer (a thousand yards) offshore. TEPCO said the Nuclear Regulation Authority inspectors will examine the equipment related to the treated water discharge and its safety systems during three days of inspections through Friday.

The permit for releasing the water could be issued about a week later, and TEPCO could start discharging the water soon after, though an exact date has not been decided.

The plan has faced fierce protests from local fishing groups concerned about safety and reputational damage.



South Korean fishing boats stage a maritime parade to protest against the planned release of treated radioactive water from the wrecked Fukushima nuclear power plant into the sea, on the seas off Wando, South Korea, Friday, June 23, 2023.

The government and TEPCO promised in 2015 not to release the water without consent from the fishing groups, but many in the fishing community say the plan was pushed regardless.

Neighboring South Korea, China and some Pacific Island nations have also raised safety concerns.

In Beijing, Chinese Foreign

Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning urged Japan on Wednesday to "stop forcibly promoting the ocean discharge plan, earnestly dispose of the nuclear-contaminated water in a science-based, safe and transparent manner, and accept strict international supervision."

Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Hirokazu Matsu-

no told reporters Wednesday that the government "abides by its policy of not carrying out a release without the understanding" of fishing groups in Fukushima. He said the government will continue to communicate closely with them and others involved, while ensuring safety and addressing the issue of reputational damage.

Associated Press

Fishing groups fear the wastewater release will cause consumers to stop buying seafood from the area.

At an annual shareholders' meeting on Wednesday, TEPCO President Tomoaki Kobayakawa said his company will proceed firmly with the wastewater release plan under the government's policy.

He said TEPCO will promote the distribution of fisheries products and make further efforts to gain understanding of the plan.

Government and utility officials say the wastewater, currently stored in about 1,000 tanks at the plant, must be removed to prevent any accidental leaks and to make room for the plant's decommissioning. They say the treated but still slightly radioactive water will be diluted to levels safer than international standards and will be released gradually into the ocean over decades, making it harmless to people and marine life.

Some scientists say the impact of long-term, low-dose exposure to radionuclides is unknown and the release should be delayed. □

2,700 people tricked into working for cybercrime syndicates rescued in Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Philippine police backed by commandos staged a

massive raid on Tuesday and said they rescued more than 2,700 workers



In this handout photo provided by the Philippine National Police Anti-Cybercrime Group, police walks inside one of the offices they raided in Las Pinas, Philippines on Tuesday June 27, 2023.

Associated Press

from China, the Philippines, Vietnam, Indonesia and more than a dozen other countries who were allegedly swindled into working for fraudulent online gaming sites and other cybercrime groups.

The number of human trafficking victims rescued from seven buildings in Las Pinas city in metropolitan Manila and the scale of the nighttime police raid were the largest so far this year and indicated how the Philippines has become a key base of operations for cybercrime syndicates.

Cybercrime scams have become a major issue in Asia with reports of peo-

ple from the region and beyond being lured into taking jobs in countries like strife-torn Myanmar and Cambodia. However, many of these workers find themselves trapped in virtual slavery and forced to participate in scams targeting people over the internet.

In May, leaders from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations agreed in a summit in Indonesia to tighten border controls and law enforcement and broaden public education to fight criminal syndicates that traffic workers to other nations, where they are made to participate in on-

line fraud.

Brig. Gen. Sydney Hernia, who heads the national Philippine police's anti-cybercrime unit, said police armed with warrants raided and searched the buildings around midnight in Las Pinas and rescued 1,534 Filipinos and 1,190 foreigners from at least 17 countries, including 604 Chinese, 183 Vietnamese, 137 Indonesians, 134 Malaysians and 81 Thais. There were also a few people from Myanmar, Pakistan, Yemen, Somalia, Sudan, Nigeria and Taiwan. It was not immediately clear how many suspected leaders of the syndicate were arrested. □

Aruban snacks and where to find them



ORANJESTAD — Want to taste something different for a change? How about some Aruban snacks that you can find all around the island? Hop in your car, and go to these locations to find some of the most popular and tasty snacks that are beloved by our locals.

One of the staples of Aruban cuisine and snacks is the Pastechi. Pastechi is a Caribbean fried pastry that

is filled with cheese, meat, chicken, veggies and sometimes even fish! Or perhaps you might want to try a croquette, locally called a "kroket," which is a crusty fried snack with typically a meat and dough mix filling. The Aruban kroket is based on its Dutch counterpart, the "bitterbal".

These two snacks are typically found in all local snack trucks, which can be found

all over the island, including on the side of the main road that stretches from San Nicolas to the Hotel Area. You can also find pastechis and kroketts at local bakeries and snack shops, like Bright Bakery in Piedra Plat, Huchada in Santa Cruz or Pastechi House in the city center. These places may also sell other snacks and sandwiches too, perfect for on-the-road lunch break.

While you're at it, why not accompany your snack with a refreshing "batido"? Batidos are fruit shakes, typically made with added milk for some creaminess. However, you can also ask to hold the milk. Batidos are commonly found in snack shops too. You may find some batido shops next the flea markets downtown, or if you're on your way to San Nicolas, at Mauchi Smoothies and Juice Bar in Savaneta (located at the side of



the main road).

If you are looking for something a bit more fresh and healthy, why not try some coconuts, or shaved ice from local vendors? These vendors carry their little shop at the back of their truck, so they are ever-moving around the island. However, there are a few spots where you can almost always find a coconut/shaved ice vendor:

1. Right next to the Red Anchor in San Nicolas, on the way to Baby Beach.

2. Along the main road next to the airport field.
3. At the California Light House.
4. At the Alto Vista Chapel.

These vendors may also sell other delights, like the beloved coconut-based dessert "cocada" or peanuts. All in all, in Aruba, you can always find some place to take a break and have a bite of something local, you maybe just might have to look for them! □

Photo credit: wheninaruba.com

Food culture in Aruba

(Oranjestad) - Like many other cultures, an important aspect of the Aruban cultural identity is our connection to food and food traditions. The local food traditions consist of a melting pot of different cultural and religious eating habits and dishes.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner

The routine of breakfast, lunch and dinner on the island is one that does not completely follow a European or American routine, despite the major influences from these parts of the world on our culture and way of living. When it comes to the three important meals of the day, most of the Aruban population follows a Latin-American influenced routine.

Breakfast

Breakfast in Aruba is quite simple: a cup of coffee or tea, some bread, and sometimes an egg. Sometimes, due to the need of a quick "to-go" breakfast, you may also find many snack trucks and cafes that sell sandwiches, pastechis (meat pie), arepas and empanadas early in the morning.

Main Meal

The main meal is typically eaten in most households around noon or in the afternoon. This can consist of meat, fish, and chicken—stewed or fried—with funchi (polenta) or rice with stewed vegetables. Often, fried or boiled plantain or pan bati (Aruban pancake) is included.

Stews are a staple in Aruban cuisine and can be largely influenced by Latin-American and Latin/Afro-Caribbean Stews. Some of the more unique stews and soups from the ABC Islands* include sopi di bonchi cora (red kidney bean soup with pig tail), sopi mondongo (tripe soup), carni stoba (beef stew), comcomber stoba (West Indian gherkin stew) and much more.

Dinner Time

Dinner time can vary significantly from household to household. Unlike the U.S. or in Europe, dinner time typically does not consist of a whole (warm) meal. Instead, the evening "meal" can typically consist of something lighter, like a sandwich, though it is not uncommon to see leftovers from the main meal reheated and eaten again. Tea and coffee are often also served with the evening snack.

(Religious) Holidays

Christmas is probably the biggest global holiday, and every culture has its own spin on what their Christmas cuisine entails. In Aruba, our Christmas cuisine is again largely based on Latin-American influences, most notably from Venezuela. Ayacas and the famous pan di ham* are two crucial holiday dishes, along with stuffed turkey, roasted glazed ham topped with pineapples, arroz con pollo (rice and chicken) and potato salad, among



other items. Traditional drinks include ponche crema (Aruban egg-nog), chuculati pinda (hot chocolate with peanut butter), and homemade fruit punch. Desserts include, bolo di pistachio (pistachio cake), bolo di cashupete (cashew cake), quesillo (flan), bolo preto (dark fruit cake), drigidek (gingerbread), pan boyo (bread cake) and more.

Snacks and tasty delights

Besides meals and dishes that are eaten on the dinner table, Aruba also has a food tradition that includes snacks and other tasty delights that you may easily find around the island. These include, Saco*, basket, pastechi, kroket, deditos, Johnny cake and more. These snacks are usually sold at local snack trucks and cafes, often located on the side of the road. In

the area of Tanki Leendert and Tanki flip, for example, there are many of these trucks parked on the side of the road and often open until late at night—offering tasty and filling snacks post night-life fun.

*ABC Islands: Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao

*Pan di ham: Derived from the Venezuelan Pan de Jamon (rolled up bread with ham, raisins and olives)

*Saco: Saco literally means "bag". Saco contains fried potatoes, plantains, chicken (and ribs) and a Johnny cake, served in a paper bag.

Source: Voeding, voedingsgewoonten en gerechten op Aruba (Nutrition, Food Traditions and Dishes on Aruba) by Biblioteca Nacional Aruba □



Paseo Herencia is always fun and exciting to visit



NOORD— Paseo Herencia offers a variety of shopping, dining and entertainment options in an outdoor center located in the heart of Palm Beach – walking distance from the high-rise hotels.

Shopping

The Paseo Herencia stores offer a great collection in beach wear, clothing, perfume, shoes, jewelry, souvenirs and much more. Pamper yourself by visiting Maggy's and enjoy their salon services and shop for your favorite beauty products. Aruba Aloe has that perfect gift to bring back home, all made with natural ingredients. Other brand favorites are Tommy Hilfiger, Calvin Klein, Aldo, Carmen Steffens, Nike store, Pandora and many more.

Restaurants

Start with a breakfast meal at Paseo Herencia offering unique breakfast options such as Drunk's Denial with their Make it Your Own Crêpe Bar offering sweet and savory crêpe flavors and the option to booze it up with their Mimosa crêpe (mandarin soaked in champagne), Pina Colada (pineapples in coconut rum), Bourbon



Apple, Brandy Apricot, Whiskey Pear and more. Location can be found by following the bakery smell upon arrival. Another option is Seabarita offering you delicious breakfast options ranging from Huevos Rancheros to empanadas surrounded by a cozy picnic setting with streetside view. Go Argentinian style at Che Bar and try their delicious omelet with chorizo/ham, mozzarella, onions, peppers, and tomatoes served with skillet potatoes and toast. Looking for something for the whole family? Visit TGI Fridays and choose between waffle, omelets, breakfast sandwiches and tacos starting at \$8. These restaurants are also open for lunch & dinner offering you a variety of cuisine choices. If you're looking for more unique concepts, join us for dinner at Xixon Restaurant greatly known in Miami for their Spanish inspired dishes with top notch flavors and the largest wine variety or visit The Lazy Turtle and try their exotic African dish "Kuvuta Kuku" accompanied by their tasty lazy cocktails. Coming for drinks? Sip and have a good time at the Bulldog Aruba located in the center of the Plaza. Open till late.

VIP Cinema

Visit the one-of-a-kind Caribbean Cinemas VIP on the second floor of Paseo Herencia and enjoy your favorite movies in the most comfortable reclining seats with high quality screens with the latest projection and 7.1 Dolby surround

sound and not to forget their delicious buttery bag of popcorn.

Entertainment

Catch live shows from Monday to Thursday and Sunday at 8pm on the Paseo center stage and the nightly water shows at 7:30pm, 8:30pm and 9:30pm. Looking for some adrenaline? Visit the Airsoft experience located behind The Lazy Turtle. Snap Instagramable pictures at the Angel Wings located between Pandora and Free Spirit or the Flying mosaic hearts located behind King Churros. Parking up to two hours is free when shopping, dining or catching a movie at Paseo Herencia. Just present your purchase receipt at our parking cashier.

To learn more about our specials and events, visit the Paseo Herencia website www.paseoherencia.com.



BINGO IS BACK EVERY THURSDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY!

BONUS
BINGO
THURSDAY!

Bonus 4-Card BINGO
starting at 1pm!

\$7 for 4-Card BINGO | 8 Games to Play

\$1,500 in Cash Prizes

SPECIAL PROGRESSIVE GAME

Jackpot within 50 Calls | 51 Calls or more \$111

Additional \$500 Cash Prize in our
Monthly Early Bird Drawing when you
purchase your card before noon!

THE SHOPS AT ALHAMBRA CASINO

Offering a wide variety of Retail & Dining Outlets,
Salon & Spa Services, Souvenirs and more.

Dunkin Donuts | Baskin Robbins | Fusion Piano & Wine Bar

Hungry Piranha | Twist of Flavors | Juan Valdez Café

The Brownstone Ribs & Seafood

Coming Soon: Auntie Anne's Pretzels

Alhambra
CASINO AND SHOPS

Open daily 10am to 3am | J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 | 583.5000 | casinoalhambra.com

Play Responsibly. Visit www.gamblersanonymous.org if you or someone you know has a gambling problem.



Aruba's cultural and literary development: Then and now

(Oranjestad)—The Aruban culture has seen many substantial developments over the course of a century. With the introduction of the Lago Refinery at the turn of the 20th century, followed by the breakout of the Second World War and the general incentive for political independence during the mid-century, a cultural identity on the island began to take form and have since developed through international and local influences.

In the pre-industrial era of the 19th century, much could not be said about a cultural identity on the island. Still being a part of a Dutch colonial territory at the same, as well as not having political or economic autonomy (Curacao was the center of commerce, cultural life, and political management of the Netherlands Antilles at the time), the small population of Aruba consisted mostly of farmers and fishermen, tending to their crops and their cattle, or going out to fish to provide for their family. As Quito Nicolaas states in his article *Historia di Literatura Arubiano: E Bida Cultural* (Literary History of Aruba: Cultural Life), "during the pre-industrial period, there were no significant economic activity

that could have created a cultural ambience, with only one way to generate profit at the time for the sub existence of Aruban families."

It wasn't until the introduction of the Lago Refinery in San Nicolas in 1928, that the island saw a small boom in cultural manifestations and entertainment, as farmers left the 'cunucu' (country) life to work in the refinery, which resulted in Aruba acquiring a different economic pillar. Before this, entertainment and cultural manifestations were mostly experiences by local parishes and the island's elite, who often partook in cultural and entertaining activities around the island, like going to the movie theater or coming together to share poetry on Sundays after church.

Literary life

Throughout the 19th century and up until the 1940s, there were also not much trace of a cultural climate for the cultural-literary sector on the island. Primary education was introduced on the island mid-19th century, followed by secondary and higher education around the late 30's and 40's. It wasn't until the 1950s, with the introduction of the E.R.N.A agreement in 1951 and the signing of the Statute in 1954, which allowed more space for and control over the economic and cultural development of Aruba, that the literary life on the island began to grow substantially



compared to decades before. This was in response to local institutions established in the 1940s for cultural and literary growth on the island, but that did not yet capture the attention of the general public. The 1950 brought with it a boom of literary production on the island, like those of V.S. Piternella, as well as migrant authors José Ramón Vicioso y Rings William Rufus, who have also contributed to the literary development on the island. The literary movement was further promoted by local broadcasters Voz di Aruba and Radio Kelkboom, with their regular broadcast of literary works.

The 50s and 60s also saw the influence of international cultures, especially that of the United States. During this time, because of international influences as well as the continued prosperity of the oil refinery, cultural traditions in Aruba began to really take form and become widespread, as different worldly and local concepts were introduced in the Aruban society. With the establishment of local television broadcast station Tele-Aruba in 1963,

and with time and possibilities, local programs such as "Nos Tera" ("Our Land") started to pay more attention to the Aruban culture and worked to form a cultural consciousness in the community. The 1960s also saw the rise of local authors and artists, who were more comfortable in producing works in our native tongue, Papiamentu, but who also produced works in Spanish, English and Dutch. This new phenomenon was in response to the interaction between economic growth, individual prosperity, cultural life and literary expression.

The 21st century

Nowadays, international influence on our culture is still prevalent, especially those from Latin America,

the United States and The Netherlands. Nevertheless, there also exists a strong cultural identity and traditions that are exclusive to the Aruban culture, often manifesting during traditional celebrations, like Dia di San Juan/Dera Gai (St. John's Day), Dia di Himno y Bandera (National Hymn and Flag Day), Camping during Easter and much more. With the surge of social media in the last decade, artistic voices, especially those of the younger generation, has become even more prevalent and easily accessible to the community of Aruba through online platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and TikTok. □

Source: *Historia di Literatura Arubiano: E Bida Cultural* by J.R. "Quito" Nicolaas



For Sale

Asking Price:
USD 990,000,-

A 2-story House with
5 Bedrooms and 4
Bathrooms a nice pool
area. In a good
neighborhood in front
of the Marriott Hotel.

For more information
whatsapp: **5941317**

Globally lauded Regenerative Travel Adds Caribbean's Top Hotel Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort

Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, Aruba, delivers tranquil luxury in climate-forward setting

Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, Aruba, continues to elevate travelers' experiences by becoming the newest member of Regenerative Travel. This comes just as the Caribbean's first certified carbon-neutral hotel is being celebrated as the newly announced No. 1 Hotel in the Caribbean and Top 18 Best Hotel in the World by TripAdvisor.

Bucuti & Tara has long been recognized globally as a pioneer in proving that memorable vacations and sustainability can be mutually inclusive. By joining Regenerative Travel, Bucuti & Tara becomes one of its Regenerative Hotels™. The marketplace brings together travelers, hotels, tour operators, travel agents and other stakeholders with the shared commitment to travel experiences that are as caring for guests as they are the planet.

As a Regenerative Hotel, Bucuti & Tara represents:

Mission-driven, independent spirit. Celebrating its 35th anniversary year, Bucuti & Tara's firm foundation comprises three cornerstones: romance, wellness and sustainability. Its unrelenting pursuit of providing superior guest service with the utmost care of the community and environment.

The property boldly shares "what we are not," sharing it does not cater to groups or allow children, its SandBar is reserved only for resort guests so they will always have a seat and receive undivided attention, it is not an ideal property for smokers, and more. As a pioneer, the resort leads, whether on island or on a global level. It helped a local company create the resort's solar panel system, teaching them skills while creating the largest renewable energy system in the private sector. When pet overpopulation became an issue, the resort launched a nonprofit in 2016 and more than 35,000 island dogs and cats have been spayed or neutered.

Honors the sense of place.



Bucuti & Tara is proud of its island home, Aruba. The resort encourages guests to go beyond the property and revel in all of the wonders of the island. It begins upon arrival, which is streamlined from curbside to accommodations including every couple's personal concierge encouraging them to head straight to the beach for an ocean swim filled with wellness benefits.

In protecting its island environment, the property does not promote off roading tours that damage local flora and fauna, rather, they pair guests with one of the Caribbean's top birding experts and professional photographers for a private excursion. Public spaces and accommodations feature interactive, colorful artwork by internationally acclaimed local artist Elisa LeJuez. Spa treatments proudly incorporate the island's largest export, abundantly healthy and diverse aloe.

The resort's Authentic Aruban & Caribbean menu is literally generations in the making with its rich collection of staffs' family recipes - and when locals approve, guests know it is going to be a culinary highlight. Most recently, the resort donated a new green space, Bucuti & Tara - GMC Nature Preserve, a 30-acre carbon sink. As it continues to reforest the protected space, the trees and plants will protect island wildlife while drawing down carbon emissions from the atmosphere.

An ethos of service. On any given day, guests hail from 25 different countries world-

wide. Bucuti Associates invite the opportunity to connect with guests whether it is through a shared language, specific dietary needs or cultural traditions. Every couple is assigned a personal concierge. Long before it is wheels down on island, the concierge works with them to discover their vacation wishes. It can be off-the-beaten path picnics to remote parts of the island, helping them along their continuum of wellness through the resort's all-encompassing wellness program, or helping them plan a unique engagement of intimate wedding. The goal is that guests have an enriching experience laced with new perspectives that they hopefully even take back to their own communities.

One tangible example is that the resort has long gifted every guest upon arrival with a reusable, logoed canteen. With Aruba's water being among the highest rated in the world, tap water reigns. This initiative annually prevents 290,000 single use water bottles from ever being used and therefore discarded. Guests love taking their keepsake cup home and continue using it long after their vacation, as evidenced in pictures they will share on social media.

A vacation that meets values. Whether it is the value of the nightly rate, which is never discounted and there are no surprise fees, ensuring every guest receives the same fair price, or the values such as choosing a resort that has a sustainability program that is so solid that the United

Nations calls it "highly replicable and scalable," Bucuti & Tara wants the best for its guests. As a regenerative travel experience, it invites every guest to its monthly beach clean-up, helps them discover and advocate for nesting Leatherback sea turtles and/or provides them a view as hatchlings take their first steps to sea, encourages them to Pack for a Purpose by bringing needed items for a Imeldahof, and helps them by providing climate-friendly menu options to name just a few.

"Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort welcomes the opportunity to join with Regenerative Travel, to exchange best practices with other member properties, and to connect guests with a vacation highlighted with authenticity in dining, art, excursions, design, community and environmental stewardship and where their ethos are shared and honored," says Ewald Biemans, Owner/CEO of Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, Aruba.

Regenerative Resorts' Founder and CEO, Michael Phillips, commented, "We warmly welcome Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort to our network of exceptional properties. Their unwavering dedication to sustainability and commitment to delivering outstanding quality and service perfectly aligns with our mission to redefine hospitality through regenerative practices. Together, we will inspire positive change and pave the way for a more sustainable future."

Joining Regenerative Travel

is timely for the resort. A recent Sustainable Travel Study by Expedia showed that 90% of consumers are looking for sustainable options and seek hotel, transportation, dining, and excursions that align with their own personal commitments to sustainability.

About Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort

Declared the first Carbon-Neutral® hotel in the Caribbean in August 2018, Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort is one of the Top 10 Hotels for Romance in the World (fourth straight year), No. 1 Hotel for Romance in the Caribbean (seventh straight year) and No. 3 Hotel for Service in the Caribbean. Aruba's premier adults-only boutique resort is led by celebrated hotelier and environmentalist, Ewald Biemans, named by Caribbean Journal as the 2017 Caribbean Hotelier of the Year. The resort is nestled on the powdery white sands of Eagle Beach, home to protected sea turtles and named one of the "Dream Beaches of the World."

Home to the Caribbean's Safest, Healthiest Vacation Experience thanks to its physician-developed COVID 19 safety protocols and Aruba's Health & Happiness Code seal, Bucuti has 104 well-appointed guestrooms, suites and penthouses. It offers sunbeds and shade for every guest; freshwater infinity pool; spa; WiFi; and complimentary iPad for use during stay. Award-winning healthy dining is enjoyed at oceanfront Elements, Tara Lounge and private beach dining.

Reserved exclusively for guests and their friends, the open-air SandBar offers top-shelf cocktails and live music daily along with the Caribbean's first Healthy Hour. The resort is TAG Approved® as an LGBTQ-friendly hotel. Bucuti & Tara, a worldwide sustainable tourism leader, holds eco-certifications of CarbonNeutral®, LEED Gold, Green Globe Platinum and Travelife Gold and was named the World's Most Sustainable Hotel/Resort in 2016 by Green Globe. □

History of fishing in Aruba

ORANJESTAD — Fishing has been a family tradition for ages in Aruba. Our ancestors used to fish for a living. Even though nowadays you don't see them often we still have some passionate fishermen on the island that go out every day in search for fish to feed their families and serve our local market. One of these fisherman is Gregory Wernet.

The so-called Continental Bank between Aruba and the opposite coast reaches a depth of about 650 feet. The sea is very rich in fish here. Since the time of the indigenous native people fish and other sea creatures such as turtles, octopus squids, conch and many type of crustaceans have formed a means of subsistence for the native Aruban inhabitants. Especially along the west coast of the island where the fishing grounds are settlements of fishermen. Until the arrival of the oil industry Aruban fishermen could supply Aruba's wants.

As a source of income, however, fishing did not amount too much. In the beginning of the 1900's approximately 160 people earn their living in this branch of this industry. Rancho, which stands for a shed, nowadays east Oranjestad, was the head

quarter and remains the fishermen's settlement. Savaneta, Noord, Santa Cruz all had their fishermen's villages. At a rough estimate there were about a hundred small fishing boats during that time.

The Arubans were mainly engaged in coastal fishing, using rowing-boats or small sailing-boats, and lines or dragnets and canisters in shallow water. When fishing with deep-sea lines just over the bottom of the sea the boat is kept in place by means of a piece of rock serving as an anchor. The two most important species of fish by far caught in this manner are the pargo or red snappers and a variety of groupers like the mero, jeanpao and the wowo di boyo.

Cruising off the coast the Aruban fisherman patiently waits for a fish willing to snap at the bait on the drag-line, in nets and traps. Veritable giants are sometimes caught. Barracudas weigh from 9 to 44 pounds and measure from 3 to almost 7 feet. The kingfish has a weight from 22 to 44 pounds; the moclat may tip the scales at 155, whilst garfish, having a length of nine feet, weigh over 132 pounds.

Most fish caught is used for their own consumption,



to feed their families and some are being sold in the market to local restaurants.

Fisherman Gregory Wernet

Gregory Wernet is a well-known fisherman from Santa Cruz. His father taught him fishing when he was a small child. Gregory has two sons, Jordan and Jordanny, which he taught fishing too, when they were only 3 years old and he takes them fishing with him. Fishing has been a family tradition for quite a long time and even his grandson Willvion of 7 years old is following his grandfather steps. This is the sixth generation of fishermen in their family.

They go deep sea fishing.

There they catch red snapper, grouper and amberjack. They usually fish for 15 hours a day, but now due to the covid-19 measurements they go fishing from 5 in the morning until 8 o'clock at night or even sometimes from 8 at night till 5 in the morning. The day before they prepare all their fishing tools such as the Lines, lures, spears, and load their boat with fishing reels, batteries, fill the gasoline tank, lights and some food and beverages. For bait he uses sardines, squid and the small fish known in Aruba as piskechi. The have two boats they use for fishing. 'Virgen del Valle' which is parked at the pier by the Seaport and

'Padrot' which they have at home.

The fish they catch they take home to their families and they also sell it to their clients. Gregory is proud to be a fisherman. It is a honest and humble job but with it he is able to feed his family even during hard times. It is a very dangerous job and you have to spend many hours on the sea, waiting patiently and risking your life while fighting a big fish and big waves but the adrenaline it brings with it but also just sitting there listening to the sound of the waves and enjoying the marvelous view that nature has to offer is all worth it. □

Source: Etnia Nativa



CROSSWORD

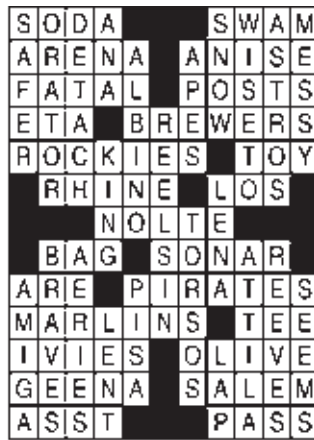
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Cell features
- 5 Church doctrine
- 10 Resting on
- 11 Entice
- 12 Diminutive suffix
- 13 Cleopatra's love
- 14 Garden harvest
- 16 Garden harvest
- 20 Big hits
- 23 Objective
- 24 Dodge
- 25 Effect preceder
- 27 Spanish king
- 28 Like lava
- 29 Garden harvest
- 32 Garden harvest
- 36 Craving
- 39 Country singer Jackson
- 40 Tooth layer
- 41 Quick drink
- 42 Borders
- 43 Chopping tools

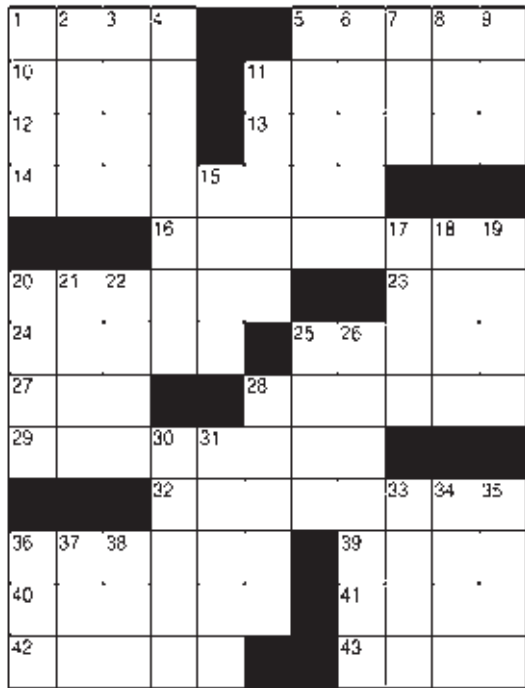
DOWN

- 1 Folk's Joan



Yesterday's answer

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 Western-most Aleutian island | 19 Portent | 30 Battery, e.g. |
| 3 Campus mil. org. | 20 Oregano or sage | 31 Makes sound |
| 4 Gave design details | 21 Finished | 33 Baseball's Rodriguez |
| 5 Disco's Summer | 22 Sub spread | 34 Strong wind |
| 6 Choose to participate | 25 Soda choice | 35 Picnic pests |
| 7 Earth: Prefix | 26 Cave raider of story | 36 Ruby of films |
| 8 Hr. part | 28 Roadside stop | 37 Break off |
| 9 Some amount of | | 38 Droop |
| 11 Train supports | | |
| 15 Take on | | |
| 17 Lacking slack | | |
| 18 Ascend | | |



6-29

AXYDIBAA XR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three I's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

6-29

CRYPTOQUOTE

PVVT AWXLHG EOVEDO RVHORSOW
VL QZLN TXPPOWOLR DOJODG.
XR'G LVIWXGSQOLR VP RSO GVID
ZLT AVTN: XR'G RWIDN DVJO.

— HXZTZ TO DZIWO LRXXG

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: OH, MR. WEBSTER COULD NEVER DEFINE WHAT'S BEING SAID BETWEEN YOUR HEART AND MINE. — ALISON KRAUSS

Do credit card late fees actually protect consumers?

By JAIME HANSON of Nerd-Wallet

In a time when inflation is driving up the cost of nearly everything you buy, something else has increased, too: credit card late fees. Thanks to a clause in the 2009 Credit Card Act, credit card issuers can raise late fees, and over time those fees have risen to current maximums of up to \$41.

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau recently proposed a rule that would slash credit card late fee maximums by 75%, to \$8 per late payment. While lower fees may seem like a good thing for the consumer, some argue that paying less could do more harm than good. According to the American Bankers Association, such a reduction "will result in more late payments, higher debt and lower credit scores." Habitual late payments can indeed damage your credit score, which impacts access to credit and how much you'll pay in interest. And as payment due dates pile up, late payments can lead to an escalation of debt. That escalation is especially concerning when, according to a first-quarter 2023 study by TransUnion, credit card debt is at near-record levels, rising nearly 20% year over year.

LATE FEES: DETERRENT OR PROFIT SOURCE?

The CFPB argues that credit card companies are using late fees to pad their bottom lines, not to help people manage their financial health. A 2022 Federal Reserve report shows that credit card fees including



Consumer credit cards are posed in North Andover, Mass., March 5, 2012.

Associated Press

late fees in particular account for about 15% of total credit card profitability. And according to the CFPB's 2021 Consumer Credit Card Market Report, that cost is borne most by the customers who can least afford it. The report shows that of the over \$14 billion in late fees paid by consumers in 2019, subprime and deep subprime consumers paid 42% of that total while representing just 12% of total accounts. While lobbying organizations like the ABA may have a valid point about the long-term dangers of lower late fees for consumers, it's important to remember their bias. As Scott Gilpatric, a behavioral economist at the University of Tennessee who specializes in procrastination and self-control, puts it, "credit card companies aren't trying to set up a mechanism in the consumer's interest. They're trying to maximize their own profits."

CONSUMERS CAN EMPLOY ALTERNATIVE GUARDRAILS

Steep late fees aren't the only way to help lessen the damage of late payments. The CFPB argues that new digital notification deterrents can motivate late-paying customers in lieu of high fees, making the current policy obsolete. According to Wei Zhang, deputy assistant director of the CFPB's Office of Consumer Credit, Payments, and Deposits Markets, "These days the vast majority of credit card borrowers are enrolled in online banking, and nearly two-thirds use a mobile app for their card."

(9) Consumers also have ready access to their credit scores, so they witness the impact of late payments in nearly real time. □

For Rent

Marriott Surf Club

1 BR sleep 4 \$1500
Studio sleep 4 \$ 1250
2 BR sleep 8 \$ 2000
Call : 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Honey Dolls
MASSAGE AND ESCORT SERVICE

Beautiful Latin Girls
Pick-up & Delivery

Serving Men - Couple - Women - All Genders

+297 565-9535
WWW.PLEASUREINARUBA.COM

ROCOO PLAZA
MEGA FLEAMARKET
SUNDAY 2 JULY
Every Tue,Wed,Thur,Frid
Sat : Fruits & Veggies
Weekly Market Saturda
Antiqueshop Daily open
10-2 & Saturday 9-1
INFO 741-5640

Classifieds

Marriott surf club

Gold season
2 BR Ocean Front
Price : \$ 16 K
Call : 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Divi village

Eagle beach
1 BR WK 23 room # 3504
Top floor building C
22 weeks remaining
Price :\$ 6 K
Call:011-297-630-1307
Johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

HTTA

Time - Share resale and Condo
Are you interested in sell your timeshare
Or Condo in Aruba
Call the experts 37 years of doing honest business
On the islands
Call : 011 -297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Ambassador suites

Eagle beach
1 BR WK 25 room 1235 \$ 3,6 K
1 BR WK 25 room 1435 \$ 4,5 K
1 BR WK 25 room 1231 \$ 3,6 K
1 BR WK 25 room 1432 \$ 4,5 K
1 BR WK 25 room 1128 \$ 4 K
Call: 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Ambassador suites

Eagle beach
1 BR WK 25 room 1133 \$ 4 K
1 BR WK 25 room 1327 \$ 4,5 K
1 BR WK 25 room 1333 \$ 4,5 K
1 BR WK 25 room 1335 \$ 4,5 K
1 BR WK 25 room 1329 \$ 4,5 K
Call: 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Ambassador suites

Eagle beach
1 BR WK 26 room 1329 \$ 4 K
1 BR WK 26 room 1135 \$ 4 K
1 BR WK 26 room 1128 \$ 4 K
1 BR WK 26 room 1227 \$ 3,6 K
Call: 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Condo

Pearl Eagle Beach
2 Bedroom ,2 Bath
Price : \$450 K
Call : 011-297-630-1307
Johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Casa del Mar

Eagle beach
2 BR WK 24 room # 1313 \$ 5,8 K
2 BR WK 24 room # 1318 \$ 7,9 K
2 BR WK 24 room # 1202 \$ 8,1 K
2 BR WK 25 room # 1411 \$7,2 K
2 BR WK 25 room # 1419 \$7,8 K
Call :011-297-630-1307
Johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Ambassador suites

Eagle beach
1 BR WK 22 room 1127 \$ 4 K
1 BR WK 22 room 1427 \$ 4,5 K
1 BR WK 22 room 1228 \$ 3,6 K
1 BR WK 23 room 1234 \$ 2,6 K
1 BR WK 23 room 1133 \$ 4 K
Call: 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Ambassador suites

Eagle beach
1 BR WK 23 room 1130 \$ 4 K
1 BR WK 23 room 1134 \$ 4 K
1 BR WK 23 room 1132 \$ 4 K
1 BR WK 23 room 1127 \$ 4 K
1 BR WK 23 room 1235 \$ 3,6 K
Call: 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Ambassador suites

Eagle beach
1 BR WK 23 room 1327 \$ 4,5 K
1 BR WK 23 room 1330 \$ 4,5 K
1 BR WK 23 room 1226 \$ 3,6 K
1 BR WK 23 room 1434 \$ 4,5 K
1 BR WK 23 room 1430 \$ 4,5 K
Call: 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Ambassador suites

Eagle beach
1 BR WK 23 room 1335 \$ 4,5 K
1 BR WK 23 room 1228 \$ 3,6 K
1 BR WK 23 room 1231 \$ 3,6 K
1 BR WK 24 room 1231 \$ 3,6 K
1 BR WK 24 room 1235 \$ 3,6 K
Call: 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Ambassador suites

Eagle beach
1 BR WK 24 room 1133 \$ 4 K
1 BR WK 24 room 1226 \$ 3 K
1 BR WK 24 room 1328 \$ 4,5 K
1 BR WK 24 room 1426 \$ 4,5 K
1 BR WK 24 room 1128 \$ 4 K
Call: 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Ambassador suites

Eagle beach
1 BR WK 24 room 1330 \$ 4,5 K
1 BR WK 24 room 1230 \$ 3,6 K
1 BR WK 24 room 1335 \$ 4,5 K
1 BR WK 24 room 1428 \$ 4,5 K
1 BR WK 25 room 1232 \$ 2,5 K
Call: 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Ambassador suites

Eagle beach
1 BR WK 25 room 1234 \$ 2,3 K
1 BR WK 25 room 1434 \$ 2,5 K
1 BR WK 25 room 1332 \$ 4,5 K
1 BR WK 25 room 1227 \$ 3,6 K
1 BR WK 25 room 1229 \$ 3,6 K
Call: 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Property land

Palm beach 771 m2 (8298,875sq feet)
Prime location near a condo project
5 min walk to palm beach
Price : \$252,800
Call :011-297-630-1307
Johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Great investment opportunity.

Property land 5000m2
(53819,552 square feet) on Eagle Beach.
Price: US \$1.280,00 per m2 (US \$6.400,000.00)
Call: 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Great investment opportunity.

Property land.
13,401m2, 2km away from Eagle Beach.
Bubali Aruba.
Price: US \$2,950,000.00
Call: 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

216738

**Editor**

Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668
Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.
Acc. #23951903
RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772

Editors

Pilar Flores
Richard Brooks
Angenette Figuereo

Sales

Mark Gomes
Sulaika Croes

Classifieds

classified@cspnv.com

Distribution and Collection

accounting@bondia.com

Social / Website

Juan Luis Pinto

Weststraat 22
T: 582-7800
E: news@arubatoday.com
W: www.arubatoday.com
f @arubatoday

**HEALTH****DOCTOR ON DUTY****Oranjestad**

Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm
Tel. 527 4000

San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours
Tel.524 8833

PHARMACY ON DUTY**Oranjestad:**

Oduber: Tel. 582 1780
Seroe Preto : Tel. 584 4833

OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850
Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic
+297 588 0539

EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

AID FOUNDATIONS

FAVI- Visually Impaired
Tel. 582 5051

Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952

Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989

Fundacion Contra Violencia
Relacional Tel. 583 5400

Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888

Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118



facebook.com/arubatoday/

Idris Elba uses his brains not brawn in the new Apple TV+ series 'Hijack'

By **ALICIA RANCILIO**

Associated Press

Standing 6-foot-2-inches, Idris Elba's size helps to sell his characters. As a detective in "Luther," he often averted protocol and went rogue. On "The Wire," he played a shrewd, intimidating crime boss in the drug world. In the 2022 movie "Beast," he protected his daughters from a ferocious lion while on holiday in South Africa. But, in his new Apple TV+ series "Hijack," it's his mental strength that helps him navigate a crisis, not his build.

Elba plays Sam, a passenger on a flight from Dubai to London that turns into a hostage situation. The first two episodes of "Hijack" debut Wednesday on Apple TV+, with one new episode released weekly.

"I'm used to being cast as a big man," said Elba. "In this situation Sam is vulnerable. He isn't there to fight." Sam's strength here is that he works as a corporate negotiator, and his ability to assess high-stakes situations like mergers and acquisitions, serves him well. "It's all a bit of a



Idris Elba, left, and Archie Panjabi pose for portrait photographs to promote the television series "Hijack" on Monday, June 26, 2023 in London.

Associated Press

psych game," he said. "Pitting one against the other and figuring out what your weak spot is. And then, of course, being able to make people feel comfortable, not threatened." Space or lack thereof was an integral part of filming. The set was an actual plane which Elba said "re-

ally helped" the look and feel of the scenes.

"We thought about builds and then we thought, 'What if we just bring a plane in and shoot within what we've got?'" said Elba, who was also an executive producer on the show. "You've just got the space that you've got... It

felt a little bit like a play and the camera could only go so many places."

The seven-episode series also unfolds in roughly the same amount of time it takes to fly from Dubai to London.

"It's difficult to make that happen because you shoot things out of sequence,

but each minute of every episode is important," said Elba. The show cuts between what's happening in the air and on the ground as officials try to piece together what they're dealing with and how to react. "It just made sense to get these real time decisions as a way to propel the narrative forward rather than sort of jump out of time sequence," said Elba, adding that the two perspectives are "really reflective of each other the whole time."

"It was very intense," added Archie Panjabi, who plays a counter-terrorism official.

"As the series progresses, the tension multiplies and so did the number of people in the room." In the end, Panjabi says there was a feeling of resolution that was freeing. "I should tell people I spent six hours on screen saving your butt," she tells Elba to laughter. Elba felt his own kind of relief at the end of six months of filming, in part because his adrenaline was often running high even between scenes. □

Angela Bassett, Mel Brooks to receive honorary Oscars

By **LINDSEY BAHR**

AP Film Writer

Angela Bassett may have gone home empty handed at the Oscars in March, but the two-time nominee will be getting a golden statuette this year after all and in very good company too. In November, Bassett, Mel Brooks and film editor Carol Littleton will receive honorary Oscars at the Governors Awards, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences said Monday.

Michelle Satter, the founding senior director of the Sundance Institute's Artist Programs, will also be given the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award at the untelevised event.

"The Academy's Board of Governors is thrilled to honor four trailblazers who have transformed the film

industry and inspired generations of filmmakers and movie fans," Janet Yang, the academy's president, said in a statement.

Most recipients of the acad-

emy's honorary awards have not won competitive Oscars. Brooks, is an exception, however, having won an original screenplay Oscar for "The Producers." At

the ceremony, in 1969, he said he wanted to "thank the academy of arts sciences and money for this wonderful award." In his speech, which had the audience in stitches, he also thanked Gene Wilder three times.

The 96-year-old, who began his career writing for Sid Caesar's "Your Show of Shows," and over the next 70 years would write, direct, act, produce for film, television and Broadway and write books, including a recent memoir, is among the rare breed of EGOT-winners. (Those are entertainers who have won Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony Awards.) He also received two other Oscar nominations, for writing the lyrics to John Morris's "Blazing Saddles" song and

another screenwriting nod for "Young Frankenstein," which he shared with Wilder.

"Mel Brooks lights up our hearts with his humor, and his legacy has made a lasting impact on every facet of entertainment," Yang said.

Bassett, whose credits include "Boyz n the Hood," "Malcolm X," "Waiting to Exhale" and "How Stella Got Her Groove Back," received her first Oscar nomination for her portrayal of Tina Turner in "What's Love Got to Do With It" and her second earlier this year for playing the grieving queen in "Black Panther: Wakanda Forever." The 64-year-old told the AP earlier this year that "this moment has been so special, it's been a highlight of my career." □



Angela Bassett arrives at the Vanity Fair Oscar Party in Beverly Hills, Calif., on March 12, 2023.

Associated Press

Gymnastics star Simone Biles returning to competition in August

By WILL GRAVES
AP Sports Writer

Simone Biles is back.

The gymnastics superstar plans to return to competition at the U.S. Classic outside Chicago in early August, her first event since the pandemic-delayed 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

USA Gymnastics announced Wednesday that Biles, a seven-time Olympic medalist and the 2016 Olympic champion, is part of the women's field for the single-day event set for Aug. 5 at NOW Arena in Hoffman Estates.

Biles has taken most of the last two years off following her eventful stay in Japan in the summer of 2021, where her decision to remove herself from multiple events to focus on her mental health shifted the focus from the games themselves to the overall wellness of the athletes.

She served as a cheerleader as her American teammates won the team silver then sat out the all-around, vault and floor exercise finals she had qualified for while dealing with what is known as "the twisties" — a gymnastics term for when an athlete loses their spatial



Simone Biles reacts after competing on the balance beam at the Tokyo Olympics, Tuesday, Aug. 3, 2021.

Associated Press

awareness when airborne. Biles returned for the balance beam final, where she won a bronze medal that tied Shannon Miller's record for most Olympic medals by an American female gymnast. She hinted at the Paris 2024 Olympics but only after taking a lengthy break.

The last two years have been a whirlwind of sorts. She headlined her post-

Olympic tour in the fall of 2021 and married NFL player Jonathan Owens now a defensive back for the Green Bay Packers this spring. The 26-year-old Biles has also become one of the most vocal advocates for athletes finding space to protect their mental health after her stand in Japan put the issue front and center.

While the conversation

around the subject is constantly evolving, Biles' return to the sport she dominated for nearly a decade suggests an athlete who wants to go out on her own terms. The U.S. Classic is one of the marquee events on USA Gymnastics' annual calendar and typically serves as a warm-up of sorts for the national championships, this year scheduled for late August in San Jose.

Biles used the Classic as her comeback meet in 2018 following a two-year hiatus after her record medals haul in Rio de Janeiro. It took her all of two hours to show she remained the gold standard in her sport, setting the stage for another spectacular run that included two more world all-around championships in 2018 and 2019 and three more national titles.

Things could be different this time around, in more ways than one.

Biles courted the spotlight during her run-up to Tokyo, becoming in many ways the face of the U.S. Olympic movement. She appears to be taking a more subdued approach with the Paris Games about a year away. She's kept her various social media channels almost entirely gymnastics-free, instead using them to highlight snippets of her personal life.

And for the first time since rising to stardom as a teenager in 2013, Biles won't have to shoulder the burden of being the standard bearer for the U.S. program. Sunisa Lee, who won gold in the all-around final in Tokyo, will also be at the U.S. □

Tennessee State will become the first HBCU to add ice hockey

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Tennessee State University announced Wednesday that it will become the first historically Black college and university to introduce ice hockey.

The school plans to have a men's team playing at the club level in 2024, with a goal of fielding Division I men's and women's teams "in the near future."

The Tennessee State program has been created in partnership with the National Hockey League, the National Hockey League Players' Association and the Nashville Predators. The announcement was made hours before the start of the NHL draft, which is being held at Bridgestone Arena in Nashville, the city where

the university is located.

"Together, we celebrate the power of collaboration as we dismantle barriers, diversify the game, and propel hockey into a new era of inclusivity," Tennessee State athletic director Mikki Allen said in a statement. "This partnership serves as a catalyst, driving change and ensuring that the game we love embraces the beauty of diversity."

Since 2017, the NHL and the players' union have sponsored feasibility studies for U.S. colleges and universities interested in exploring the addition of Division I men's and women's programs. The study for Tennessee State began in 2021. Tennessee State's addition follows a trend of

HBCUs adding sports outside their more traditional offerings of football, men's and women's basketball and men's and women's track and field. Earlier this year, The Associated Press contacted 46 Division I and D-II HBCUs and five conference offices about the trend. Twenty schools responded, saying they had added at least 42 NCAA championship or emerging sports since 2016, including at least 32 sports since 2020 alone.

In 2022-23, Fisk University became the first HBCU to offer women's gymnastics. Morgan State will become the only HBCU offering Division I men's wrestling this coming school year.

"Bringing ice hockey to

Tennessee State University is a part of our continued commitment to provide our students with new opportunities and to broaden new

interests in areas where they have traditionally had limited or no access," university president Glenda Glover said. □



Minnesota Wild hockey player Ryan Reaves talks with NHL commissioner Gary Bettman before a news conference to announce the formation of the Player Inclusion Coalition, Tuesday, June 27, 2023, in Nashville, Tenn.

Associated Press

Olson homers, Braves win 5th straight with a 3-game sweep of Twins

By **GEORGE HENRY**

AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — Matt Olson homered late and doubled in an early run and the Atlanta Braves won their fifth straight game, beating the Minnesota Twins 3-0 Wednesday for a series sweep.

Atlanta has won 21 of 25 to improve to a National League-leading 53-27. Kolby Allard, Kirby Yates, A.J. Minter, Joe Jiménez and Raisel Iglesias combined on the four-hitter with 14 strikeouts.

"It was a really good job by everybody," manager Brian Snitker said. "Any time you throw a shutout it's a team effort."

Olson's 26th homer, which leads the NL, came off Jor-



Atlanta Braves' Michael Harris II (23) slides into second base against Minnesota Twins first baseman Donovan Solano (39) in the fifth inning of a baseball game, Wednesday, June 28, 2023, in Atlanta. Associated Press

dan Balazovic in the eighth and made it 3-0.

"Just trying to continuously progress as the season goes on," Olson said. "I feel like I'm working in the right direction."

The Braves took a 1-0 lead in the first when Ronald Acuña Jr. walked, stole second base, advanced on a wild pitch and scored on Olson's double. Atlanta leads the majors with 76 first-inning runs.

Atlanta went up 2-0 in the third on Ozzie Albies' sacrifice fly.

The Twins couldn't capitalize on their scoring opportunities and finished 0 for 8 with runners in scoring position and 0 for 23 in the three-game series.

Byron Buxton snapped a 0-for-17 streak with a double in the fourth but after advancing on a flyout he was tagged out at home trying to score on Kyle Farmer's grounder to third. Donovan Solano struck out against Yates (3-0) with runners on first and second to end the fifth. Christian Vazquez lined into a double play to end the seventh.

The Twins closed their clubhouse after the game, and only manager Rocco Baldelli was made available to speak with reporters.

"Yeah, we're scrapping just to score a run right now," Baldelli said. "We're going to have to win some close ballgames like that, but you can't win every game clawing for a run, two runs. It feels like we've been like that for a long time."

"I'm hoping that getting this out, and the players are in there talking right now in the clubhouse, I'm hoping that me getting this out, them getting it out as a group and feeling this together as a team is what is going to help lead us to where we need to be."

Allard made a spot start in his season debut, last pitching in the majors on Oct. 2, 2022, with Texas. A first-round amateur draft pick by Atlanta in 2015, Allard was reacquired in November. □



Come and join the FUN!
Everyday from 10am till 6pm
We have DOUBLE points

BINGO
Play Every Day
Bingo starts at 4:30PM

Slot Play \$10
Match Play \$15

Sign up and become a VIP Member.
ID required upon redemption!

Operations Hours
Slots: 10am
Table: 4pm





 Located at RIU Antillas. For more info call: 5257777 or Follow us on  